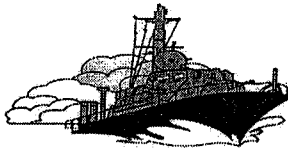




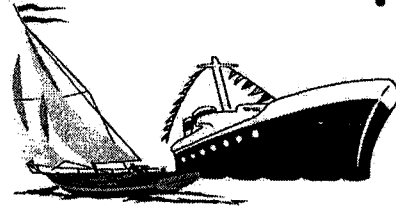
US Army Corps
of Engineers
Jacksonville District

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS



904-232-2078

In reply refer to:
CESAJ-CO-OP
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019



CESAJ-CO-OP (1130)

29 August 2003

INCREASED DISCHARGES FROM LAKE OKEECHOBEE / FLORIDA EXPRESS
RAILROAD BRIDGE

OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FLORIDA

1. Mariners are hereby notified that due to increased discharges through the Okeechobee waterway boaters should be aware of increased currents, floating vegetation and debris. As a preventative measure, a barrier cable has been installed across the rim canal 1.5 miles north of Moore Haven Lock. (This cable is north of the navigation channel and does not impact the Okeechobee Waterway.) This will help prevent debris from impacting navigation and floodwater releases. Boaters should use extreme caution when traversing through the Okeechobee Waterway due to these conditions.
2. Due to releases through the St. Lucie canal, the maximum vertical clearance of 49 feet during a Mayaca tailwater stage of 14.50 feet at the South Central Florida Express railroad bridge (mile 38.0 one mile east of Port Mayaca Lock) will decrease as discharges increase to lower the elevation of Lake Okeechobee.
3. Be advised, vessels needing more than 45 feet or needing general information may be directed to the Corps of Engineers South Florida Operations Office in Clewiston, Florida at 863-983-8101. These conditions are expected to last until further notice.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

GORDON M. BUTLER, JR.
Chief, Construction-Operations
Division